serious, described by the casier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding over temporary difficulties than to grapple with the great permanent problem, and accordingly the easier course has 'almost invariably been pursued. It was natural at a time when the National territory seemed almost limitable, and contained many millions of acres far outside the bounds of civilized settlement, that a policy should have been initiated which more than aught else, has been the fruitful source of our Indian complications. I refer of course to the policy of dealing with the various Indian tribes as separate nationalities, of regulating them by treaty and stipulations to the occupancy of immense reservations in the West, and encourage them to five a savage life undisturbed by any earnest and well-directed efforts to bring them under the influences of civilization, and the unsatisfactory results which have sprung from this policy are becoming apparent to all. As the white settlements have crowded the borders of the reservations the Indians have sometimes contended and sometimes, against their will, have been transferred to other hunting grounds, from which they have again been disloged whenever their new-found homes have been desired by adventurers and settlers. These removals, and the frontier collisions of which they have often been preceded, have led to frequent and disastrous conflicts between the races. It is profitless to discuss here which of them whenever their new-found homes have oeen desired by adventurers and settlers. These removals, and the frontier collisions of which they have often been preceded, have led to frequent and disastrous conflicts between the races. It is profitless to discuss here which of them has been chiefly responsible for the distur-

It is profitless to discuss here which of them has been chiefly responsible for the disturbances whose recital occupies so large a space upon the pages of our history. We have to deal with the appalling fact that though thousands of lives have been sacrificed and hundreds of millions of dollars expended in the attempt to solve the Indian problem, it has until within the past few years seemed scarcely nearer a solution than it was half a century ago. But the government has been cautiously but steadily feeling its way to the adoption of a policy which has already produced gratifysteadily feeling its way to the adoption of a policy which has already produced gratifying results, and which, in my judgment, is likely, if Congress and the Executive accord in its support, to relieve us from the difficulties which have hitherto beset us. For the success of the efforts now being made to introduce among the Indians the customs and pursuits of civilized life, and gradually to absorb them into a mass of our citizens, sharing their rights and holding them to their responsibilities, there is imperative need for legislative action. Wy suggestion in that regard will be chiefly such as have been already called to the attention of Congress and have received to some extent its congideration. First—I recommend the passage of an act

Service of the state of Corpered and the state of the sta

rior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Nor many years the Executive, in his anneal message to Congress, has urged the mocessity of stringent legislation for the suppression of polygamy in the Territories, and especially the Territory of Utah. The existing statute for the punishment of this odious crime, so revolting to the moral and religious sense of Christendom, has been persistently and contemptiously winted ever since its emactroner. Indeed, in spife of the commendable efforts on the part of the authorities, who represent the United States in that Territory, the law has in very rare instances been inforced, and therefore the cause to which reference will be presently made is practically of the various information eshemmes which which rests upon polygamy as its cornections. have recently been pecuping in large remainers Arizons and other of the Surveying against the libration of the Mormon clurch which rests upon polygamy as its cornections. have recently been pecuping in large remainers Arizons and other of our West, and the fact that the adherents of the Mormon clurch which rests upon polygamy as its cornections. have remained and other of the survey of the Mormon clurch which rests upon polygamy as its cornections. Indeed, the constitution of the survey of arraying against the large of the constitution and the law days of arraying against the large of the survey of t

ON AGRICULTURE.

ON AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture exhibits the results of experiments in which she Department has been engaged during the past year, and makes important suggestions in reference to the ugricultural department of the country. The steady increase of our population and the consequent addition to the number of those engaged in the pursuit of husbandry, giving to this department a growing dignity and importance. The Commissioner's suggestions to urge its capacity for greater usefulness deserves attention, as it more and more commends itself to the interests which it was created to promote. terests which it was created to promote. ON PENSIONS.

It appears from the report of the Commissioner of Pensions that since 1800, \$789,000 original claims have been filed; \$450,949 of these have been allowed and inscribed on the pension roll; \$72,539 have been rejected and abandoned, being thirteen per cent. of the whole number of claims settled. There are now pending for settlement \$305,575 original pension claims, \$227,040 of which were filed prior to July 1st, 1880. These when alpension claims, \$227,040 of which were filed prior to July 1st, 1880. These when allowed, will involve the payment of arrears from the date of discharge, in case of any valid claim, and from the date of death or termination of a prior right in all other cases. From all the data obtainable it is estimated that 15 per cent, of the number of claims now pending will be rejected or abandoned. This would show a probable rejection of 3,404 cases and the probable admission of about 193,000 cases, all of which involve the payment of arrears of pen-

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior, with accompanying documents, presents an accurate account of the business of the Department. A summary of its would be too extensive for this place. I ask your careful attention to the report liself. Prominent among matters which challenge the attention of Congress at its present session is the management of our Indian affairs, While this question has been a cause of trouble and embarrase, which this question has been a cause of trouble and embarrase in the supreme Court of the properties of the proposed to that end.

EDUCATION.

Although our system of government is been casier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort to convenient make-shifts for tiding of success. It has been easier to resort the succession of the succession o

scated young men of the country to devote their lives to public employment, by an assession surance that having once entered upon it they need never leave it and that after voluntary retirement they shall be the recipients of an annual pension. That this system as an entirety has proved very successful in Great Britain, and seems to be generally conceded even by those who once opposed its adoption. To a statute which should incorporate all of its essential features I should feel bound to give my approval, but whether it would be for the best interests of the public to fix upon it as an expension. sts of the public to fix upon it as an expe-lient for immediate and extensive applica-ion, which embraces certain features of the tion, which embraces certain features of the English systems, but excludes or ignores others of equal importance, may be seriously doubted even by those who are impressed, as I am myself, with the grave importance of correcting the evils which herein present the methods of appointment. If, for example, the English rule which shuts out persons above the age of twenty-five years from a large number of employments is not to be made an essential part of our own system, it is questionable whether the attainment of the highest number of marks at a competitive essential part of our own system, it is questionable whether the attainment of the highest number of marks at a competitive examination should be a criterion by which all applications for appointment should be put to test, and under similar conditions it may also be a question whether the admission to the service should be strictly limited to its lowest ranks. There are very many characteristics which go to make amodel servant; prominent among them are probity, industry, good sense, good habits, good temper, patience, order, courtesy, tact, self-reliance and manly deference to superior officers and manly consideration for inferiors. The absence of those traits is not supplied by wide knowledge of books or by promptitude in answering questions, or by any other quality likely to be brought to light by a competitive examamination. To make a success in such a contest, therefore, an indespensable condition of public employment would very likely result in the practical extension of the older applicants, even though they might possess qualifications, far superior to their younger and more by Want competitors. These suggestions mus not be regarded as evidence of any spirit (6 op-

rior to their younger and more by liant competitors. These suggestions must not be regarded as evidence of any spirit of opposition to the competitive plan which has been to some extent successfully employed already, and which may hereafter vindicate the claim of its most carnest supporters. But it ought to be seriously considered whether the application of some educational standard to persons of mature years and to young men fresh from school and college would not likely result in more intellectual proficiency above other qualities of equal or greater importance. Another feature of the proposed system is the selection, by promotion, of all officers of the Government, above lowest grades, except such as

the third are not been acceptable to the control of the control of

ment of the marshes and for the establishment of harbor lines along the Potomac river front. It is represented that in their present condition the marshes seriously affect the health of the residents of adjacent parts of the city, and that they greatly mar the general aspect of the park, in which stands the Washington menument, and the improvement of that park, and the park south of the Executive Mansion and a large area of valuable land, and would transform what is now believed to be a dangerous nuisance, into an attractive landscape, extending to the river front. They recommend the removal of the steam railway lines from the surface of the streets of the city, and the location of the necessary depots in such places as may be convenient for the public accommodation, and they call attention to the deficiency of the water supply, which seriously affects the material prosperity of the city, and the health and comfort of its labelitates. I commend these surgerstions

the city, and the health and comfort of its inhabitants. I commend these suggestions to your favorable consideration. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS, ETC. The importance of timely legislation with respect to the ascertainment and declara-tion of the vote for Presidential electors was sharply called to the attention of the people more than four years ago. It is to be hoped that some well-defined meas-ure may be devised before another national ure may be devised before another national election, which will render unnecessary a resort to any expedient of a temporary character for the determination of questions upon contested returns; questions which concern the very existence of the government and the liberties of the people were suggested by the prolonged illness of the late President, and his consequent incately to perform the functions of his office to adjourn upon the first process.

asked and obtained unanimous consent for a suspension of the rule to consider the bill. In reply to Mr. Cockrell he explained that the committee amendment consisted simply in making the language conform to the requirements of the present revised statutes in postal matters; that otherwise it was identical with the precedents in the cases of the widows of Pesidents Tyler, Polk and Lincoln, and that the report was a unanimous one. Mr. Maxey, of the same committee, made a like statement in relation to the unanimity of the committee in its action. The bill was read and passed without objection, being the first of the season to pass the Senate. to pass the Senate.
Adjourned.

THE NEW YORK SENATORS.

Washington, December 7.—The Star says the belief is that the President has made his Cabinet, and states that the names of those selected will be sent to the Senate at an early date. It is said that a day or two lago that a party of Senators called upon the President to urge the claim of a well-known public man for a Cabinet office, when the President brought the discussion to an abrupt termination with the statement: "Gentlemen, the matter is already closed."

rushed frantically about the room until the smoke sufficeated them and their voices, were sufficed in death. The survivors groaned and writhed in pain and shivered in the frosty air of early morning. They were been off as soon as possible, and word was sent to other boarding-houses along the line of work, and physicians were summoned from their neighborhood and city. Special engines were sent down on the Pittsburg & Lake Krie Road, but meanwhile the shivering victims were provided with such clothing as could be obtained. The seriously injured were bronght to the deport

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occurred at Keystone Rolling Mills, Fourteenth Ward, but this morning comes another which exceeds in horror anything which has occurred in this vicinity since the terrible destruction of life caused by the collision at Twenty-Eighth street. Between 2 and 3 o'clock this morning a frame boarding house located on the line of the Pittsburg & Lake Erie Railroad some seven miles below the city, was set on fire by the explosion of a lamp, and of fifty people known to be sleeping only twenty-four escaped alive. All were more or less burned, so rapid was the progress of the flames. Some were roasted to death without the possibility of rescuing them.

The building in which the fire occurred was owned by Martin & Joyce, contractors, but was under the management of a Mr. Kawn, as boarding-house keeper. It was about thirty feet wide and fifty long, and constructed of sixteen-foot boards placed on end. It had a board roof with very steep pitch and a loft formed by a sloping roof, in which laborers were huddled for the night. In the lower story was a dining-room, and in one end of the building was the kitchen. The stairs leading to the loft were located just by the side of the door leading from dining-room to the kitchen. In the loft bunks were arranged, but the only light which penetrated were from two openings without glass, and which were closed at seed to do

of steel to do

of

clothing as could be obtained. The seriously injured were brought to the depot to the West Pennsylvania Hospital, while those who were less seriously burnt were removed to the hotel of Martin Joyce, on Pennsylvania avenue The scenes this morning at the alle of the librated building were of a sickening character. In a heap in one corner of the ruins were the charred remains of the ruins were the charred remains of the serious building were of a sickening character. In a heap in one corner of the ruins were the charred remains of the serious building were of a sickening character. In a heap in one corner of the ruins were the charred remains of the serious building were of a sickening character. In a heap in one corner of the ruins were the a heap in one corner of the ruins were the charred remains of six men who had evi-dently succumbed to the fiery element while endeavoring to escape through the opening in the roof.

The Vienna Morror.

designation of severe they first when the region of the states at the committee on Finance.

If the complete the states when the region of the states at the especially allotted to ladies were full.

Among the missing are young
Count Sigismund Festiles and several
other students from a private military college. About 10 o'clock the gasemeter exploded, the roof fell and the whole place
was reduced to wreck.

Tennessee State Senator Shot

NASHVILLE, TENE., December 10 .- John NASHVILLE, TENN., December 10.—John J. Vertress shot Senator Smith, of Fentress county, in the left shoulder, in the retunda of the Maxwell House here y esterday afternoon. The wound will not prove fatal. Vertress had a case in court and charged Senator Smith with bribery and corruption in voting for the State debt tax during the last regular session of the Legislature. In the Senate yesterday Senator Smith denounced Vertrees as a liar, and upon the adjourning of the Senate Vertrees sought him at the Maxwell House and shot him. Smith claims that he was taken unawares. He states that he was taken unawares. He states that he was scated reading a newspaper when Vertrees ap-

Story brick warehouse of D. M., Osborne & Co., on South Morgan street, was entirely destroyed by fire this morning. The building was filled with reapers and machinery, on which there was an insurance of \$100,000. The building itself was insured for \$25,000. Loss on stock was \$28,000 and on building \$40,000. The cause of the fire is unknown. For some months the firm had employed no watchman. The building was an ex-

Watson, railroad agent at Selma, North Carolina, made an assignment inst month and went to New York, where he was heard from December 2d. His wife, has received a letter from Washington, Delaware, with memorandum by the postmaster stating that the letter had been received under cover from Charles-ton, S. C. The letter was written partly by Watson and a partly by another person, and stated that he (Watson) had been fatally wounded by robbers in Balti-

Lopson, December 10. - The steamer Steinman, from Antwerp to New York, has put into this port. She lost her boats and had her decks swept.

Lozpon, December 9.—The harb Duigna, from Liverpool for New Orleans, has put back to Waterford, leaking hadly and with her crew enhausted. The bark Times, at Bristol from Coosawsie, is leaky. She lost sails and bulwarks and jettisoned her cargo.

cargo.

CINCINNATI, December 10.-General A. B. Cisciskari, becember in the teneral A. B. Banning, ex-member of Congress from the Second Ohio District, died suddenly and mexpectedly at his residence in Commingsville this morning. He had been suffering from all health for several weeks. This morning his wife bet him in bed, and an hour later went to cril him to breakfast and found he was dead. Immediate cause of death unknown.

Nasnvilas, Texa., December 10.—The channon fire was the work of an incendiary Murphy & Wilson were insured for \$800; loss, \$2,00. The Wilson County News Company has insurance of \$1,887; loss, \$1,860. The court-house was insured for \$10,007; loss, \$25,000.

Washington, December 10.—The Secretary of State, with the approval of the President, will very soon make public all instructions sent by the department to Ministers Hurbon and Kingariek in regard to difficulties between Calif. Peru and Rolles.

Boller Expleder. Prinsurns, Pa., December 16.—A boiler surns, in the Keystone Besilze Mills leaf evening, exemplately demonstrained the bother house. Killing one man and seriously wasseding ten more.

To be Cardinal

Leaves, December 10.—The Archbishop of Armaga, Primate of all Iroland, will be excuted Carollini at the Comissory to be held shortly after Ciristman.

ATRANTA, Go., December 10.—Wm. Mr. Greek was crushed to death yesterday near Fairburn by some machinery falling upon